



DENTAL CARE DURING PREGNANCY

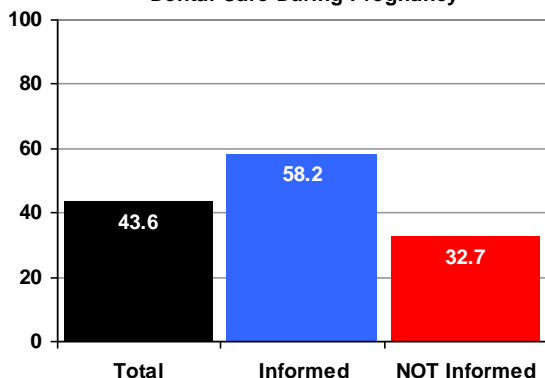
2005 Idaho Pregnancy Risk Assessment Tracking System

Studies have shown a relationship between periodontal disease, known as periodontitis, and preterm, low birth weight babies. In fact, pregnant women who have periodontal disease may be seven times more likely to have a baby that is born too early (premature) and too small (low birth weight).

Periodontitis is a bacterial gum infection that can lead to the destruction of the bone and fibers supporting the teeth and may result in tooth loss.

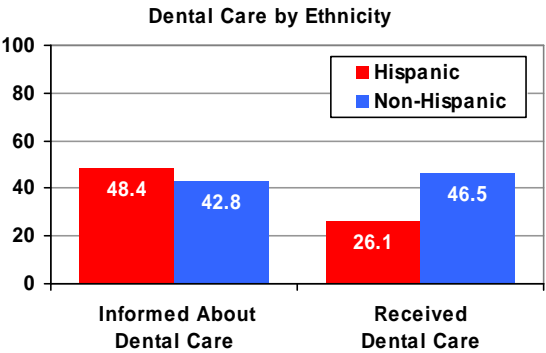
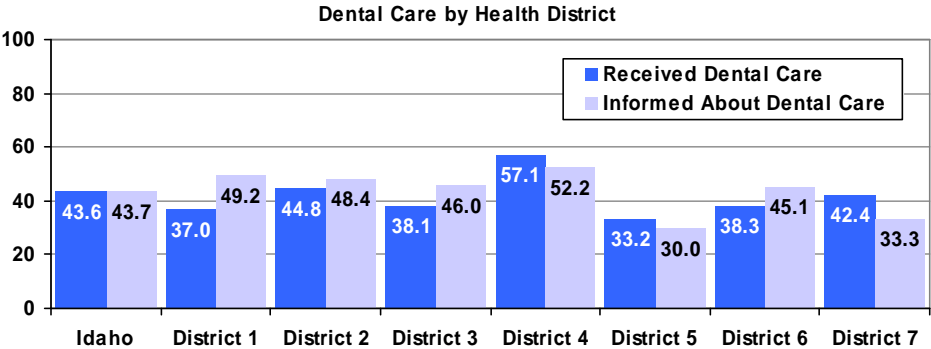
It is important for pregnant women to maintain good oral health and seek timely treatment for dental problems. According to data from the 2005 Idaho Pregnancy Risk Assessment Tracking System, less than half (43.6 percent) of mothers received routine dental care during their pregnancy and 43.7 percent of mothers surveyed reported receiving information about the importance of dental care during pregnancy from their prenatal care provider.

**Routine Dental Care During Pregnancy
by Information About the Importance of
Dental Care During Pregnancy**



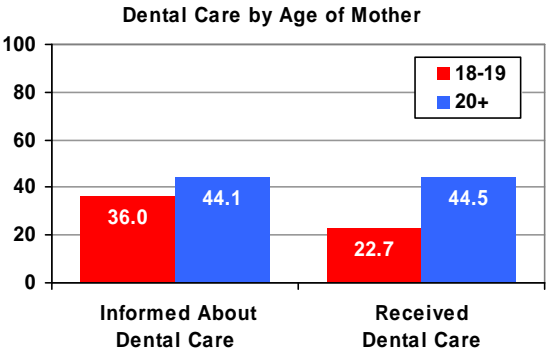
Women who reported that their prenatal care provider gave them information about the importance of routine dental care during pregnancy were significantly more likely to have received dental care during their pregnancy (58.2 percent), than those who were not informed about the importance of routine dental care (32.7 percent).

The 2005 Pregnancy Risk Assessment Tracking System survey showed geographic differences in the percent of mothers informed about the importance of routine dental care during pregnancy, as well as the percent who received dental care during pregnancy. Health District 5 had the lowest rates of women informed about dental care during pregnancy and mothers who reported having a routine dental visit during pregnancy, 30.0 percent and 33.2 percent respectively. Health District 4 had the highest rate of mothers informed about dental care during pregnancy (52.2 percent) and mothers who received dental care during their pregnancy (57.1 percent).

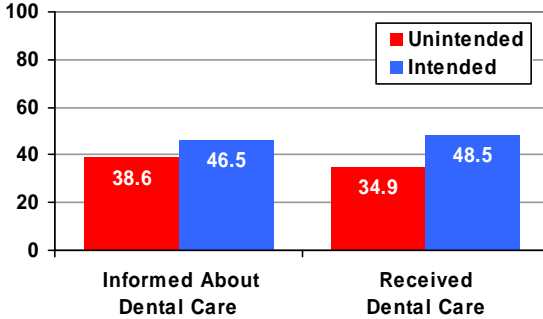


While Hispanic women were more likely to be informed about the importance of dental care during pregnancy, they were significantly less likely to get routine dental care during pregnancy, when compared with Non-Hispanic women.

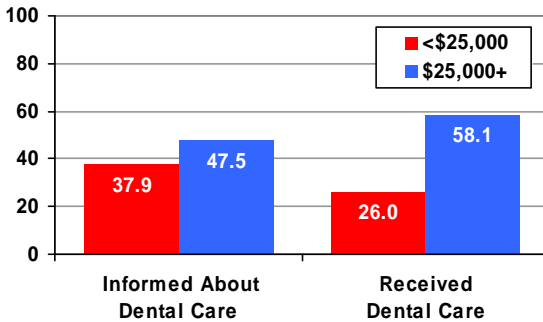
Mothers 20 years of age or older were 22.5 percent more likely to be informed about routine dental care during pregnancy and nearly twice as likely to visit the dentist for routine care during pregnancy, when compared with 18-19 year old mothers.



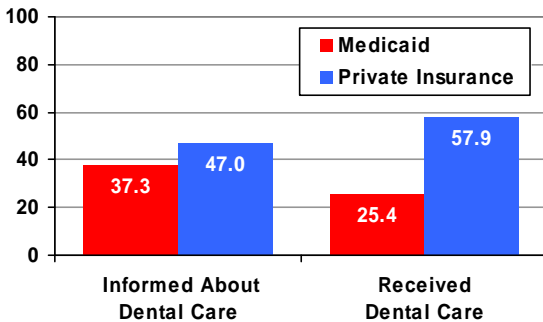
Dental Care by Intendedness of Pregnancy



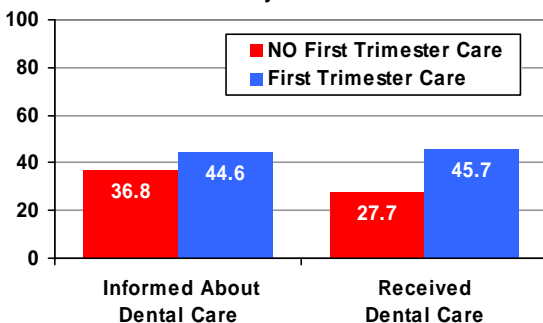
Dental Care by Household Income



Dental Care by Payment for Delivery*



Dental Care by Prenatal Care



When compared with women who had an unintended pregnancy, women who intended to be pregnant were 20.5 percent more likely to be informed about dental care and 39.0 percent more likely to get dental care during pregnancy.

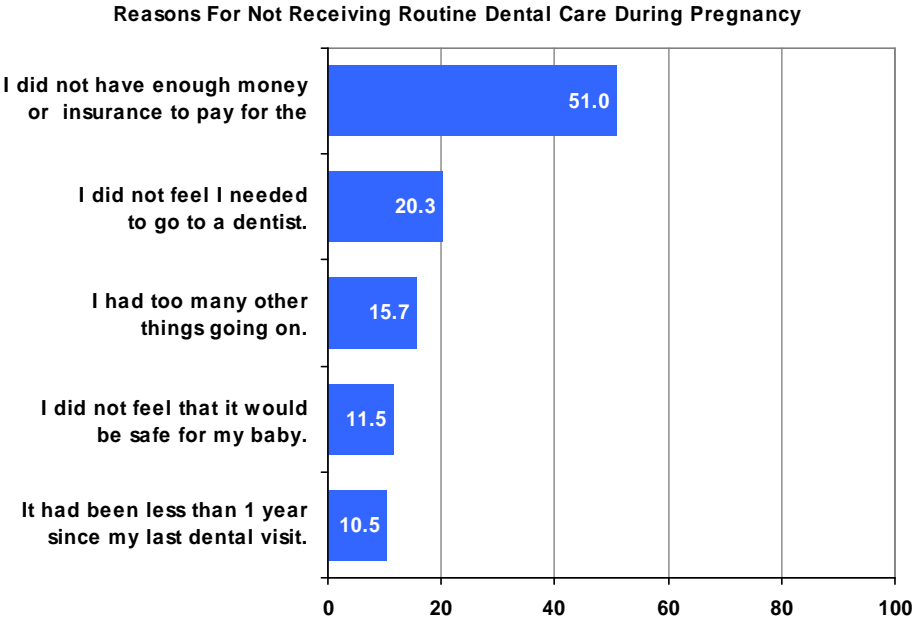
Women with an annual household income of \$25,000 or more were 25.3 percent more likely to be informed about dental care during pregnancy and more than twice as likely to get dental care, compared with women with an annual household income less than \$25,000.

Women with private insurance were more likely to be informed about dental care during pregnancy and 2.3 times more likely to visit the dentist for routine care during pregnancy than women with Medicaid.

Women with first trimester prenatal care were more likely to get information about dental care and to receive dental care during pregnancy than women with no first trimester prenatal care.

* Because respondents can choose more than one payment source for delivery, the "Medicaid" and "Private Insurance" categories are not mutually exclusive.

More than half (51.0 Percent) of the mothers who did not get routine dental care during their pregnancy reported that they didn't have enough money or insurance to pay for the visit and 15.7 percent reported that they were too busy to go to the dentist during their pregnancy. One out of five women felt that they did not need to go to the dentist and approximately one in ten did not think that it would be safe for their baby. Only 10.5 percent of the women who did not go to the dentist during pregnancy had received dental care within the previous year.



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